

JAMES M. INHOFE, OKLAHOMA, CHAIRMAN

DAVID VITTER, LOUISIANA
JOHN BARRASSO, WYOMING
SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO, WEST VIRGINIA
MIKE CRAPO, IDAHO
JOHN BOOZMAN, ARKANSAS
JEFF SESSIONS, ALABAMA
ROGER WICKER, MISSISSIPPI
DEB FISCHER, NEBRASKA
MIKE ROUNDS, SOUTH DAKOTA
DAN SULLIVAN, ALASKA

BARBARA BOXER, CALIFORNIA
THOMAS R. CARPER, DELAWARE
BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, MARYLAND
BERNARD SANDERS, VERMONT
SHELDON WHITEHOUSE, RHODE ISLAND
JEFF MERKLEY, OREGON
KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND, NEW YORK
CORY A. BOOKER, NEW JERSEY
EDWARD J. MARKEY, MASSACHUSETTS

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

RYAN JACKSON, MAJORITY STAFF DIRECTOR
BETTINA POIRIER, DEMOCRATIC STAFF DIRECTOR

October 15, 2015

Ms. Christy Goldfuss
Managing Director
Council on Environmental Quality
730 Jackson Place NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Ms. Goldfuss:

On behalf of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, I would like to invite you to testify before a hearing on Tuesday, October 20, 2015, beginning at 2:45 p.m. in Room 406 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. The purpose of the hearing is to conduct oversight of the ongoing international climate negotiations and examine the role that domestic environmental policies play in any final agreement. The Committee is also inviting as witnesses a representative of the Environmental Protection Agency and Mr. Todd Stern, Special Envoy for Climate Change at the State Department.

In preparation for this hearing, your staff has reiterated that the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) has no role in the Conference of the Parties negotiations preparing for Paris in December and could not provide testimony for this hearing. However, the President has directed the Chairman of CEQ, in Executive Order 13693, to coordinate efforts by federal agencies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from federal government operations. On June 10, 2015, you issued instruction to federal agencies, pursuant to the Executive Order, on how to plan for sustainability. 80 FR 34149. This action is part of the intended nationally determined contribution toward the 26-28% reduction of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. More importantly, CEQ officials have testified before the Committee numerous times concerning the negotiations and oversight of international environmental treaties and international energy and environmental partnerships specifically concerning climate change. It is difficult to believe that the CEQ staff would have no role in the inter-agency discussions leading to Paris. If you refuse to testify, I would like the reasoning in writing and would like to have a list, with titles, of all CEQ staff who plan to attend the COP-21 in Paris in December and those who have attended previous international meetings related to the UN's Framework Convention on Climate Change.

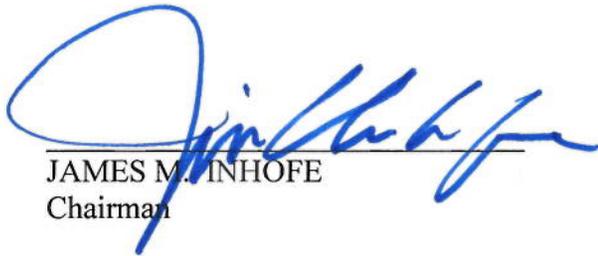
In order to maximize the opportunity to discuss this matter with you and other witnesses, we ask that your oral testimony be limited to five minutes. Your written testimony can be comprehensive and will be included in the printed record in its entirety, together with any other materials you would like to submit.

CEQ Invitation 102015 hearing
Oct. 15, 2015
Page 2 of 2

To comply with Committee rules, please e-mail a copy of your testimony to joe_brown@epw.senate.gov and deliver 100 hard copies (double-sided if possible) 48 hours in advance of the hearing. If one is available, you may include a brief biography as well. If you plan to use or refer to any charts, graphs, diagrams, photos, maps or other exhibits in your testimony, please include an electronic or hard copy in your advance submissions. Exhibits or other materials that are not provided to the Committee by this time cannot be used for the purpose of presenting testimony. Testimony should be delivered to the EPW Committee at 410 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510. Due to security restrictions, only couriers or employees with government identification will be permitted to bring packages into the building.

If you have any questions about the invitation or the hearing, please feel free to contact Mandy Gunasekara or Anna Burhop on the Committee's Majority staff at (202) 224-6176.

Sincerely,



JAMES M. INHOFE
Chairman